

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How do I contact someone in the General Practice Clinical Unit (GPCU)?

- Email: med.mdgp@uq.edu.au Please feel free to email for any queries or concerns
- Website: <https://medical-school.uq.edu.au/mayne-academies/general-practice>
- Phone: 07 3346 5167

Where do I find the GP Clinical Teachers Handbook and other teaching resources?

Information relevant for GP Teachers can be found on the GPCU's website, by clicking on the 'Teaching and Learning' tab, or following this link directly to the [Teaching and Learning webpage](#). The Handbook for GP Clinical Teachers is an excellent source of information, updated annually, and is a must read for all GP Clinical Teachers. It can be found on the link above, along with several other useful resources.

What should I do if I'm sick or unable to take my student for their session?

If the student is away:

- The expectation is that students will attend all sessions. If a student cannot attend, they must let the practice know as soon as possible and please remind students that they should submit an absence notification form to the University.

If the GP teacher is away:

- If the GP teacher is unable to attend, and cover cannot be organised within the practice, we request that you let the student know as soon as possible to save them travel time.

If you have concerns about the student's overall attendance or you are unable to take your student for a number of sessions, please contact us at GPCU at med.mdgp@uq.edu.au to discuss further.

I'm a new GP Clinical Teacher in a practice that already takes UQ medical students. Where do I begin?

If your practice already has an agreement in place to take UQ students on their general practice placements, we recommend speaking with your practice manager to let them know you are interested in teaching. They will be able to tell you which GP/s at your practice are already taking students, and you may be able to help with the teaching of those students for this semester. We usually send expressions of interest to the practice (via the practice manager) several months prior to each new semester, so if you would like a student allocated to you for next semester it is important that your practice manager knows this so they can put your name forward.

Prior to starting teaching UQ students, we also recommend you:

- Check your medical indemnity covers you for supervising medical students
- Read the **Handbook for GP Clinical Teachers** linked on the [GPCU 'Teaching and Learning' webpage](#)
- This same webpage also has a 'Resources for GP Clinical Teachers' heading which contains many useful learning resources for new GP Teachers.
- You might find the following 'Updates for 2025' VOPPs particularly useful (also on the same webpage):
 - What's new for GP teachers in 2025
 - Information for new UQ GP teachers

I'm interested in medical student teaching, but my practice does not currently take UQ students on GP placement. How do I get involved?

Please express your interest by filling in the form linked [here](#).

We will then be in touch to organise a time to come and visit you at your practice.

What Assessment tasks do I need to help my Year 2 and 4 students with?

Year 2:

- Sign off completion of 5 GP clinical tasks
- 2x Mini-CEX (Clinical Evaluation Exercise – History and Examination)
- Mid and end-of-term Supervisor Report

Year 4:

- Clinical Participation Assessments (CPA)
- Students may also ask you to observe and sign off procedural skills and tasks during their placement for their workplace learning portfolio course

The students don't turn up some weeks. How do I know when to expect them?

This information can be found on the first pages of the Handbook for GP Clinical Teachers linked on the [GPCU 'Teaching and Learning' webpage](#) and will be emailed to you at the start of the student's placement. Please email med.mdgp@uq.edu.au if you have concerns about student attendance.

GP PLACEMENTS 2025

Year 3/4 Immersion		Year 2 Longitudinal General Practice Placement	
Placement 1	13 January - 21 February	First Half	3 February – 30 May
Placement 2	24 February – 4 April 24		No placements scheduled for week commencing 24 Mar, 31 Mar
Placement 3	14 April – 23 May		
Placement 4	23 June – 1 August	Second Half	23 June – 31 Oct
Placement 5	4 August – 12 September		No placements scheduled for weeks commencing 11, 18, 25 Aug, 1 Sep
Placement 6	22 September – 31 October		

I hear there are monthly drop-in sessions for GP Clinical Teachers on Zoom. Please tell me more. Can I claim CPD for attending the drop-in sessions?

We are running a drop-in lunchtime session (usually on the first Wednesday of the month) from 12:30-1:00pm on Zoom. These 30 min sessions generally consist of a short presentation by a GPCU staff member relevant to your teaching and time for general questions. You can claim CPD for these sessions by using the RACGP myCPD app to log your time. If you would like the Zoom link please email med.mdgp@uq.edu.au

Can I bring my student along for nursing home visits?

Medical students are insured by The University of Queensland for the duration of the approved course, but not for any extra sessions with your practice outside of their GP Course. Your student must obtain approval from the General Practice Clinical Unit before starting any such extra sessions. Please also note that if the student receives any payment from your practice during their attachment, their status changes to an employee and the University policy does not cover them.

UQ's insurance policies (including personal accident and public liability) cover UQ students while undertaking UQ approved activities which are related to their course. Supervised General Practice home visits and residential aged care visits (students should always be accompanied by their GP teacher in these circumstances) are covered. Please contact the General Practice Clinical Unit if you have any questions about coverage for other types of visits or activities in your practice.

Specific additional considerations are:

1. Motor Vehicle Insurance Comprehensive motor insurance is required to be held under the placement agreement for any vehicles in which students are passengers during their placement.
2. Where travel more than 50km is involved – travel approval should be sought from and provided by UQ to ensure cover under UQ's travel insurance. You may also find our fact sheet on student placements helpful.

I have received an email from UQ asking me to volunteer to be an OSCE examiner? What's involved?

OSCEs (Observed Structured Clinical Examinations) are a type of practical exam used in the UQ MD program in Years 1, 2 and 3 to assess students' clinical skills.

Overview of OSCEs :

- **Structured Stations:** Students rotate through a series of stations, each designed to test specific skills or knowledge areas.
- **Realistic Scenarios:** Each station simulates real-life clinical situations, often with standardized patients (actors trained to present medical conditions).
- **Objective Assessment:** Examiners use standardized checklists to evaluate students' performance, ensuring consistency and fairness.
- **Comprehensive Evaluation:** OSCEs cover a wide range of skills, including history taking, physical examination, communication, and clinical reasoning.
- **Feedback and Improvement:** Students receive immediate feedback, helping them identify strengths and areas for improvement.

Several OSCEs run each year at different sites across Brisbane. They are generally held on a Saturday and run for the full day. Being an OSCE examiner is a voluntary role and is not paid. There are training sessions planned before each OSCE, and resources made available if staff cannot attend the online training. Certificates are provided to examiners on the day which can be used for CPD.

My student says the assessment forms are all completed on the MyProgress app on their phones. I've never done this before. How is this done?

MyProgress is an online platform that has an app to facilitate real-time capture of feedback and sign-offs of assessments on a mobile device. When the student needs an assessment piece completed e.g. a mini-CEX, a supervisor report, or sign off on a GP clinical task, they will hand you their phone, with the criteria sheet open in the MyProgress app, and will ask you to complete it on their phone, with them present. The app can work offline and completed forms will upload when an internet connection is resumed.

Does the General Practice Clinical Unit (GPCU) provide 19AB exceptions for overseas trained doctors?

Unfortunately, we cannot assist with 19AB exemptions for Clinical GP Teachers who teach UQ medical students on their GP placement. The Department of Health advises that 19AB exemptions are only available to doctors with a substantive academic appointment with the University. Unfortunately providing clinical placements and teaching medical students in general practice does not fulfil the "substantive" academic appointment requirement. We are not able to facilitate an academic appointment for GPs. The University of Queensland job opportunities are regularly advertised via this website: [here](#)